



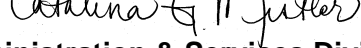
SPECIAL ALERT

Update of the California Student Aid Commission

January 12, 2010

GSA 2010-01

TO: Financial Aid Administrators and High School Counselors

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SUBJECT: Chafee Foster Youth Grant Program for 2009-10 and 2010-11

This Special Alert provides updated information on the California Chafee Foster Youth Grant (Chafee) Program for the 2009-10 and 2010-11 academic years.

2009-10 Academic Year

The California Student Aid Commission (Commission) offered 2,609 students Chafee awards for the 2009-10 academic year. Of these awards, 1,297 were new and 1,312 were renewal awards. The Commission has obligated all of the \$12 million Chafee allocation authorized for federal fiscal year 2009.

Due to the recent 12 percent state reduction in 2009-10 Chafee funding, the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) is amending the 2009-10 Chafee contract to reflect this reduction (refer to GSA 2009-32).

The timing of the issuance of new awards is dependent on the recovery of funds for ineligible Chafee participants. As a result, the Commission has suspended the further processing of new 2009-10 Chafee awards, until the 12 percent is recovered.

2010-11 Application Availability

The 2010-11 *Chafee Foster Youth Grant Application* is now available on the Commission's Web site at <https://www.chafee.csac.ca.gov>. New Chafee applicants who are unable to access the online application can print a paper application and mail the application to the California Student Aid Commission, Specialized Programs Operations Branch, California Chafee Grant Program, P.O. Box 419029, Rancho Cordova, CA 95741-9029.

Only new Chafee applicants need to complete the Chafee application. All eligible applicants who submitted an application for 2009-10 and prior years will be renewed in the 2010-11 academic year.



State of California
Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

For more information you may contact us at:
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Website: www.csac.ca.gov E-mail: schoolsupport@csac.ca.gov

Financial Need Analysis Report (NAR) Process

Institutions are encouraged to continue to process the 2009-10 Financial Need Analysis Report (NAR) for eligible applicants. To assist in expediting the processing of the NAR's, please use the correct return reason when submitting the return check.

In addition, the Commission appreciates assistance from institutions in facilitating the check disbursement process by immediately returning checks for ineligible Chafee participants. Funds returned from institutions for ineligible students may be reconciled and potentially distributed as new Chafee awards.

WebGrants access to the 2010-11 NAR will be available in early spring 2010; however, a paper version is available on the Commission's Web site.

Commission Resources

Institutions should periodically check their *Chafee Status Roster by School* report and *Chafee Needs Analysis* report to identify potential Chafee students. Institutions may access these reports by using the *WebGrants Download Report Screen*, which is updated during every Chafee payment cycle.

Students transferring schools or requesting school changes can process a school change by accessing *WebGrants for Students (WGS)* at www.webgrants4students.org or by contacting the Commission. Students are encouraged to use WGS to check their award status and update their personal information.

If you have any questions regarding this Special Alert, please contact the Specialized Programs Operations Branch by e-mail at specialized@csac.ca.gov or at (888) 294-0153 option 3.

Enclosures: California Chafee Grant Program Application
California Chafee Grant Program Financial Need Analysis Report

Working together to effectively promote education beyond high school!